

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 91329-65691

Title: CIVIL AFFAIRS GROUP

Operation/Exercise Name: HURRICANE ANDREW RELIEF      Observed: 13 Sep 1992

Originator: S-3A

POC: MAJ KLEPAC      Commercial: (305)242-7638      DSN:

5. (U) OBSERVATION:  
NONE

6. (U) DISCUSSION:  
Disaster Relief Operations require close and frequent contact with civilian officials. It is the job of the CAG to enhance/hasten the transition of the disaster relief mission from the military to civilian officials.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:  
Relief operations require the ubiquitous presence of CAG personnel to help civilian officials "get back on their feet".

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
Structure a notional disaster relief T/O which includes a well trained/equipped CAG detachment.

9. (U) COMMENTS:  
Throughout the first week of the operation CAG personnel were not available, since they are reservists. Due to short notification for the stand-up and deployment of the SPMAGTF, CAG personnel were unable to deploy early on. This severely hampered our civil affairs efforts, since time spent by the S-3 and SJA was lost handling business normally handled by the CAG. Continuity was lost each time a new CAG team arrived due to reserve turnovers.

The Remedial Action Program (RAP) Working Group reviewed and categorized this as a NOTED item. M&RA provides the following comments:

a. The recommendation contained in the subject MCLLS item is well intentioned, but remains beholden to the accessibility of reserves. Having a "notional disaster relief T/O

which includes a well trained/equipped CAG detachment" provides a paper tiger, but does not enhance the reserve CAG's ability to report/deploy in a more timely manner.

(1) The MAGTF commander can rely on non-CAG personnel/units to conduct the activities traditionally associated with CAGs. The CG MARRESFOR can provide MTTs to conduct Civil Affairs training (see CG MARRESFOR msg 210540Z Oct 93).

(2) The following conclusions of issues affecting accessibility for domestic emergencies can be stated:

(a) National Guard has primary responsibility for Domestic Emergencies;

(b) Use of Federal forces are authorized by statute;

(c) Access to Federal Reserve Components is authorized when a national emergency is declared and 10 USC 673 is invoked.

b. The subject MCLLS item erroneously assigns responsibility for enhancing/hastening the transition of the disaster relief mission from the military to the civilian officials on the CAG. Per the Federal Response Plan, this responsibility properly falls to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in concert with state and local officials.

(1) Implementation of the Federal Response requires a request from the State Governor, indicating the devastation caused by the disaster has gone beyond State and local capabilities, and a declaration of emergency/disaster by the President. Upon issuance of the presidential declaration the FEMA begins to implement the Federal Response Plan.

(2) Unlike Hurricane Andrew, Federal Response planning, preparation and coordination between the FEMA and the Director of Military Support (DOMS) for potential disasters has improved substantially, as demonstrated during the Midwest Flooding and Hurricane Emily planning and execution during the Summer 1993.

c. Point of contact is Major C. W. Murphy (RAP-24) at DSN 224-1941/8726.

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